



FACT SHEET

Commerce Initiates Antidumping Duty and Countervailing Duty Investigations of Imports of Ammonium Sulfate from the People's Republic of China

- On June 15, 2016, the Department of Commerce (Commerce) announced the initiation of antidumping duty (AD) and countervailing duty (CVD) investigations of imports of ammonium sulfate from the People's Republic of China (China).
- The AD and CVD laws provide U.S. businesses and workers with a transparent, quasi-judicial, and internationally accepted mechanism to seek relief from the market-distorting effects caused by injurious dumping and unfair subsidization of imports into the United States, establishing an opportunity to compete on a level playing field.
- For the purpose of AD investigations, dumping occurs when a foreign company sells a product in the United States at less than its fair value. For the purpose of CVD investigations, a countervailable subsidy is financial assistance from a foreign government that benefits the production of goods from foreign companies and is limited to specific enterprises or industries, or is contingent either upon export performance or upon the use of domestic goods over imported goods.
- The petitioner for these investigations is PCI Nitrogen, LLC (TX).
- The merchandise covered by these investigations is ammonium sulfate in all physical forms, with or without additives such as anti-caking agents. Ammonium sulfate, which may also be spelled as ammonium sulphate, has the chemical formula $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$.
- The scope includes ammonium sulfate that is combined with other products, including by, for example, blending (*i.e.*, mixing granules of ammonium sulfate with granules of one or more other products), compounding (*i.e.*, when ammonium sulfate is compacted with one or more other products under high pressure), or granulating (incorporating multiple products into granules through, *e.g.*, a slurry process). For such combined products, only the ammonium sulfate component is covered by the scope of these investigations.
- Ammonium sulfate that has been combined with other products is included within the scope regardless of whether the combining occurs in countries other than China.
- Ammonium sulfate that is otherwise subject to these investigations is not excluded when commingled (*i.e.*, mixed or combined) with ammonium sulfate from sources not subject to these investigations. Only the subject component of such commingled products is covered by the scope of these investigations.
- The Chemical Abstracts Service (CAS) registry number for ammonium sulfate is 7783-20-2.
- The merchandise covered by these investigations is currently classifiable under Harmonized Tariff Schedule of the United States (HTSUS) subheading 3102.21.0000. Although this HTSUS subheading

and CAS registry number are provided for convenience and customs purposes, the written description of the scope of these investigations is dispositive.

- In 2015, imports of ammonium sulfate from China were valued at an estimated \$62 million.

NEXT STEPS

- The U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) is scheduled to make its preliminary injury determinations on or before July 11, 2016.
- If the ITC determines that there is a reasonable indication that imports of ammonium sulfate from China materially injure, or threaten material injury to, the domestic industry, the investigations will continue and Commerce will be scheduled to make its preliminary CVD determination in August 2016 and its preliminary AD determination in November 2016, unless the statutory deadlines are extended. If the ITC’s preliminary determinations are negative, the investigations will be terminated.

ALLEGED DUMPING MARGIN:

COUNTRY	DUMPING MARGIN
China	250.81 to 493.46 percent

ESTIMATED SUBSIDY RATE:

COUNTRY	SUBSIDY RATE
China	Above <i>de minimis</i> *

* *de minimis* = less than 1% for developed countries, less than 2% for developing countries.

CASE CALENDAR:

EVENT	AD INVESTIGATION	CVD INVESTIGATION
Petitions Filed	May 25, 2016	May 25, 2016
DOC Initiation Date	June 14, 2016	June 14, 2016
ITC Preliminary Determinations*	July 11, 2016†	July 11, 2016†
DOC Preliminary Determinations	November 1, 2016	August 18, 2016
DOC Final Determinations	January 17, 2017†	November 1, 2016
ITC Final Determinations**	March 1, 2017	December 16, 2016
Issuance of Orders***	March 8, 2017	December 23, 2016

NOTE: Commerce preliminary and final determination deadlines are governed by statute. For CVD investigations, the deadlines are set forth in sections 703(b) and 705(a)(1) of the Tariff Act of 1930, as amended (the Act). For AD investigations, the deadlines are set forth in sections 733(b) and 735(a) of the Act. These deadlines may be extended under certain circumstances.

†Where the deadline falls on a weekend/holiday, the appropriate date is the next business day.

* If the ITC makes negative preliminary determinations of injury, the investigations are terminated.

**This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations from Commerce.

***This will take place only in the event of final affirmative determinations from Commerce and the ITC.

IMPORT STATISTICS:

CHINA	2013	2014	2015
Volume (metric tons)	42,900	207,700	335,300
Value (USD)	9,159,000	54,589,000	62,037,000

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, accessed through Global Trade Atlas. (HTSUS 3102.21.0000)